GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3434
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2017
Shortage of Spectrum
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to provide industry with an option to buy spectrum every year irrespective of their interest so that there is never a shortage of spectrum in providing quality mobile services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) The Department has conducted spectrum auction every year from 2012 onwards in various spectrum bands as per availability. In the last spectrum auction conducted in October 2016, spectrum was put to auction in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands. Further, the Government has also permitted for spectrum sharing and spectrum trading among telecom service providers. Auction, sharing and trading all alleviate shortage of spectrum, besides yielding other desirable outcomes.
The Government has not yet made any plan to provide industry with an option to buy spectrum every year.

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